

2007

May

Cockroaches



Identification leads to effective management.



Oriental cockroach entering pheromone trap.



An uncommon but disgusting sight (American Cockroach).I

Eliminate food, water and shelter as much as possible to drastically reduce cockroach infestations.



Inspect hiding places.

MAY TIPS

COCKROACHES

Sanitation and exclusion are important prevention strategies to manage cockroaches in buildings.

- Learn how to distinguish a field cockroach from a German cockroach. Field cockroaches live outside and only occasionally come inside, usually in the fall when their numbers peak.
- Place sticky traps behind refrigerators, sinks and next to walls; they rarely venture into the middle of a room.
- Use a HEPA-filtered vacuum to remove cockroaches prior to beginning a baiting program.
- Put bait in valve boxes for Oriental and Turkestan cockroaches. Monitor for these cockroaches under and between concrete slabs.
- German cockroaches hide in cracks and crevices, so place small drops of gel bait in these areas.

OTHER PESTS

- **Pigeons:** look for evidence of pigeon activity. Record location of birds at dawn, mid-day and evening to determine where building modifications will be most effective.
- **Rats and Mice:** look for droppings, fresh gnaw marks, and tracks that indicate activity.
- **Gophers:** trap, trap, trap; activity is increasing.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

RECORD OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

DATE

TASK

RESULTS

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2007

June

Rats



Sanitation is prevention.

Effective management relies on monitoring populations and location of rats.



Droppings of roof (left) and Norway rat (right).

Copper mesh exclusion.

JUNE TIPS

RATS

Combined practices, including sanitation, rat-proofing and snap traps, should be used to manage rat infestations.

- Identify the species; management for Norway and roof rats can be different.
- Monitor throughout the year, looking for rat droppings and chewing damage.
- Thin or remove vegetation near building that provide rats with shelter and travel bridges.
- Seal or screen openings larger than a quarter (one-quarter inch diameter).
- Place traps along walls and check frequently. Rats are very cautious; leaving traps baited, but unset for several days will improve trap catches when they are set.

OTHER PESTS

- **Ground squirrels:** Install barriers to prevent digging under structures; treated grain baits are effective because squirrels normally feed on seeds during this period.
- **Pigeons:** Install roosting deterrents, like 80-pound monofilament line, 1-2 feet apart over frequented and sensitive areas. Seal all openings to eaves, lofts, and steeples.
- **Trees:** This is a good time to prune trees susceptible to diseases, such as anthracnose, and bacterial diseases like cankers.

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July

Pigeons



Discourage roosting with wire spikes.

Pigeons produce young all year round, though peak breeding season is in the spring and fall.



Deter pigeons with 45 degree angles.



Owl decoys do not work.

JULY TIPS

PIGEONS

Habitat modification to deter roosting pigeons is a good long-term solution to pigeon problems.

- Reduce perching sites – convert flat surfaces to 45-degree angles using wood, sheet metal, styrofoam or plexiglass.
- Remove or repair dripping faucets or other sources of water.
- Pigeons nests: knock down and destroy in late winter and again in summer.

What doesn't work

- Ultrasonics and other periodic noise devices.
- Owl decoys and other scare techniques (fake snakes, balloons, flags, flashing lights).

OTHER PESTS

- **Ground squirrels:** They aestivate (summer sleep) during the hottest summer months so control efforts are not warranted.
- **Ants, yellowjackets, cockroaches, mice and rats:** Empty trash daily to eliminate food sources and keep populations in check.
- **Turf:** Check water requirements and adjust sprinklers to the recommended rate. Check sprinklers to be sure all are working.

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